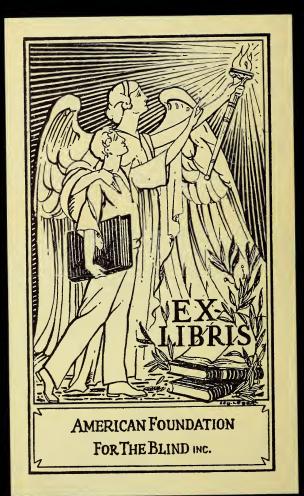
HIGHER EDUCATION OF THE BLIND AND DEAF OF ILLINOIS

Issued by JOHN A. WIELAND Superintendent of Public Instruction, Etate of Illinois

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MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR THE BLIND AND DEAF

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R. W. Woolston]	Managing Officer, Illinois	School for the Blind
D. T. CLOUD	Managing Officer, Illinois	s School for the Deaf
GRACE GENTRY		nicago Public Schools

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HIGHER EDUCATION OF THE BLIND AND DEAF AND DUMB IN ILLINOIS

Those who are interested in public education know that their goal will not be reached until equal educational facilities are available to "all the children of all the people." Educational leaders are made cognizant of that fact by the constant problems which confront them in the administration of their duties, but never more so than when they contemplate the situation faced by parents of blind, deaf, or dumb children. It is obvious that children with such handicaps have as great if not a greater need for education than those who see, hear, and speak normally.

It must have been then with a definite sense of duty that provision was made to equip such children so that they might lead normal, useful lives in so far as possible. Since July 1, 1917, definite laws have been in force which provide for the elementary and secondary education of blind or deaf children or those whose vision or hearing is so defective as to make it impracticable for them to be educated in the regular public schools of the State.

Thus, for twenty-two years, elementary and secondary education has been made available to blind, deaf or dumb children. But it was not until July 1, 1925, that provision was made for higher education of the blind students. None was made at this time for deaf or dumb students. On that date the following law was made in force: "There is created a board of education for the blind, hereinafter referred to as the board, consisting of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the managing officer of the Illinois School for the Blind, and the supervisor of the work for the blind in the Chicago public schools. The members of the board shall be reimbursed for their actual necessary expenses but shall receive no other compensation for their services.

"It is the duty of the board to furnish financial assistance to deserving blind students who have been residents of the State of Illinois for four years immediately preceding their application for assistance, and who are regularly enrolled students, pursuing a course of study in a university, college, conservatory of music or a normal, professional or vocational school. The amount of aid to any student shall not under ordinary circumstances, exceed three hundred dollars (\$300.00) per annum, but where the board may consider that added assistance is necessary, the amount may be increased to five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per annum. Money so furnished shall be expended under the direction and supervision of the board. Upon presentation of proper vouchers certified and approved by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Auditor shall draw his warrants therefor upon the State Treasurer."

The sum of \$12,000.00 for the biennium was appropriated to carry out the provisions of this act. Records on file show that applications of thirteen blind students were approved at the first meeting that the board held for consideration of such applications. The total amount thus allocated was \$3,900.00 to be used during the school year 1925-1926. Of this amount, \$3,839.84 was used. During the school year 1926-1927, twenty blind students used \$7,235.76, leaving a balance of \$924.40 in that fund for the biennium 1925-1927.

Fifteen thousand dollars was appropriated for higher education of the blind during the biennium 1927-1929. Seventeen students received \$6,029.98 during the school year 1927-1928 and twenty-three received \$8,318.77 the second year of the biennium. The appropriation was the same for the biennium 1929-1931—\$15,000. Twenty-two students received scholarships for the school year 1929-1930 and twenty-two during the following year.

In view of the fact that the number of applications for aid was increasing each year, the Board for Higher Education of the Blind had previously requested that the appropriation be increased to \$25,000, but it was not until 1931 that this was done. That year also saw an advantageous change in this law. It was made to read:

"There is created a board of education for the blind and deaf and dumb, hereinafter referred to as the board, consisting of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the managing officer of the Illinois School for the Blind, the managing officer of the Illinois School for the Deaf, and the supervisor of the work for the blind in the Chicago public schools. The members of the board shall be reimbursed for their actual necessary expenses but shall receive no other compensation for their services.

"It is the duty of the board to furnish financial assistance to the deserving blind, and/or deaf and dumb students who have been residents of the State of Illinois for four years immediately preceding their application for assistance, and who are regularly enrolled students, pursuing a course of study in a university, college, conservatory of music or a normal, professional or vocational school. The amount of aid to any student shall not under ordinary circumstances, exceed three hundred dollars (\$300.00) per annum, but where the board may consider that added assistance is necessary, the amount may be increased to five hundred dollars (\$500.00) per annum. Money so furnished shall be expended under the direction and supervision of the board. Upon presentation of proper vouchers certified and approved by the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the Auditor shall draw his warrants therefor upon the State Treasurer.

"The sum of fifteen thousand dollars (\$15,000.00) is appropriated to the board of education for the blind and deaf and dumb for the purpose of furnishing financial assistance to deaf and dumb students as hereinbefore provided. This appropriation is subject to the provision of 'An Act in relation to State finance,' approved June 10, 1919, as amended.

"The title of said Act is amended to read as follows: 'An Act to aid blind, and deaf and dumb students in securing higher education'."

The fifteen thousand dollars mentioned above was in addition to the twenty-five thousand dollars appropriated for higher education of the blind.

It is in this form that the law remains. However, the next biennium 1933-1935 saw the appropriation cut to \$30,000 for scholar-ships for blind, deaf and dumb students. At that figure the appropriation remained until 1939 when it was increased to \$40,000 for the biennium. In the meantime, the number of blind students aided increased from twenty-four during the school year 1931-1932 to forty-nine in 1937-1938. The number of deaf assisted has not varied much since such aid first became available. Eight deaf students received scholarships during the school year 1931-1932 and twelve in 1938-1939. Applications of forty-five blind and nine deaf students were approved for the school year 1939-1940.

Some of the students who apply for aid have been blind or deaf since birth. Others report their blindness or deafness due to accidents. And still others become thus handicapped due to various diseases. Regardless of the duration or the cause of the handicap these young people are to be commended for their desire to become active, useful citizens and it has always been, and still is the disposition of the board to give them every help and encouragement possible.

Many of these young men and women make remarkable progress. The courses which they take in college are about as varied as are those of any other group of young people with various interests. Some choose chiropractics; some, osteopathy; others, law; still others, music. Many of them take liberal arts courses; some have chosen dentistry.

The amount of scholarships granted in each case depends upon the estimated needs of the individual. The board manages to have some sort of personal contact with each student to whom a scholarship is granted. Personal interviews are arranged for Chicago students. The member of the board from Chicago is always present at these interviews and is able to report on each case at the regular meeting of the board which is held about the middle of August for the purpose of considering all applications. Most downstate applicants have attended the Illinois School for the Blind or the Illinois School for the Deaf and are known by the board members representing these institutions. Each case is thus given the individual attention that is required to determine whether or not financial aid is deserved. Transcripts of the grades of each applicant are also required before his application is approved. Students deserving such assistance are required to give the following information:

Place of residence; age; length of residence in Illinois continuously and immediately prior to the date of application; age student became blind or deaf; cause of blindness or deafness; state of health; education already received; source of scholastic credits; choice of course; financial status of parents; number of brothers and sisters; ages of same; estimate of financial needs. In addition to the above, students who have previously been granted aid are required to state number of years that they have received scholarship; course chosen; length of time required to complete course; tuition charge by institution which they attend.

Recent rulings of the Board for Higher Education of the Blind and Deaf do not permit aid to be granted to any student for more than four years. This rule was made because the granting of scholarships for aid beyond college graduation deprived other deserving students of aid necessary to begin their college training. On August 19, 1940, the board deemed it advisable to set forth the rule that in the event of the marriage of any student receiving a scholarship for higher education of the blind or deaf, such aid would be discontinued. This rule does not affect married persons already receiving such scholarships because rules which attempt to be retroactive are almost always unfair to those affected.

After a student has been notified that he has been granted a scholarship and has been advised as to the amount thereof, he may file monthly expense accounts with the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction not to exceed one-ninth of the amount approved for the entire year. Regular blanks are furnished for this purpose. Claims are allowed for tuition, laboratory fees, text-books, board and room, guides, (for the blind), readers, (for the blind), dentistry, supplies and transportation. The greatest amount of transportation allowed is to the deaf students, the most of whom attend Gallaudet College at Washington, D. C. Each expense account must be signed by the student and by the college co-ordinator or registrar and must be accompanied by receipts for any items exceeding one dollar. No expense account is approved until notification has been received from the college which the student enters, giving date of entrance, course selected, program of studies and tuition charge. Necessary blanks for making these reports are furnished each student. Expense accounts are allowed on the first and fifteenth of each month, but only one account per month is allowed each student except in cases of emergency.

The board requires that progress reports for each student must be filed with the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction at regular intervals so that they may ascertain whether or not each student is worthy of the scholarship granted him. Records are made of these for reference when the board meets for the purpose of considering applications. According to the minutes of the board meetings, very few students have been refused further aid because of their scholastic records. In practically every case, the students' progress reports have indicated that their grades are above the average.

A separate account is also kept in the office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for each student. The amount granted him by the board is set up as a credit and each of his expense accounts approved is subtracted, showing the amount still due him. At the end of the year, his account is closed, throwing any balance he may have at that time back into the general fund. A complete and general account is also kept so that the balance available in the fund set aside for higher education of the blind and deaf is shown at all times.

Students choose their own colleges. However, the various members of the board are always willing to assist them in their choice if they believe that it is necessary. The following tables are given in order to show the number of students assisted for the past four years, indicating the colleges attended, and items of expense allowed:

TABLE 1—SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR HIGHER EDUCATION OF BLIND AND DEAF STUDENTS—1936-1937

		Num	Number of students	dents		Amor	int of expens	Amount of expense claims allowed	wed		
Name of College or University	Address of Collego or University	Blind	Deaf	Total	Tuition, class activity, and registration	Text- books	Reader	Room and board	Guide	Incidentals (including transporta- tion, medi- cal atten- tion, etc.)	Total expendi- tures
1	2	89	4	5	ų	7	œ	6	10	11	12
ILLINOIS		40	oc	48	\$5, 530 24	\$701 67	\$3, 569 90	\$3,388 07	\$474 43	\$1,511 72	\$15,176 03
American Conservatory of Music Chicago, Illinois Catrbage, College——————————————————————————————————	Chicago, Illinois Chartago, Illinois Chartago, Illinois Elimhurs, Illinois Chicago,	110111111111111111111111111111111111111	T.		210 211 10 28 211 10 28 212 00 20 213 00 20 2145 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20	2 2 4 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	80 00 68 50 00 68 50 00 68 50 00 69 50 00 60 00	405 50 45 50 45 50 250 50 140 35 43 10 143 00 146 00 190 00 1	29 18 20 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	15 49 49 14 15 49 15 16 15 16 15 16 15 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16 16	339 0 0

* Administrative Expense.

TABLE 2—SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR HIGHER EDUCATION OF BLIND AND DEAF STUDENTS—1937-1938

	Total expendi- tures	12	\$16,972 62		325 00 324 99 18 55
	Incidentals (including transporta- tion, medi- cal atten- tion, etc.)	11	\$1,619 75		*18 55
wed	Guide	10	\$716 74	75 50 4 00 4 00 57 00 4 00 103 75 77 25 77 25 145 24 145 20 166 00	
se claims allo	Room and board	6	\$3, 508 72		28 00
Amount of expense claims allowed	Reader	œ	\$3,380 26		26 61 25 02
Amo	Text- books	2	\$869 79		18 00 16 61
	Tuition, class activity, and registration	9	\$6,877.36		199 11 283 36
dents	Total	2	59		
Number of students	Deaf	4	10	F (5)	
Numk	Blind	က	49		
	Address of College or University	2		Chicago, Illinois Carthage, Illinois Chartage, Illinois Elmhurst, Illinois Elmhurst, Illinois Chicago,	St. Louis, Missouri
	Name of College or University	1	ILLINOIS	servatory of Music ege. e. c. c. d. C. Law e. c. c. d. Law e. d. C. Law look of College tt Junior College tt Junior College lege lege	practic Palmer School of Chiropractic

* Administrative Expense.

TABLE 3-SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR HIGHER EDUCATION OF BLIND AND DEAF STUDENTS-1939

	Total expendi- fures	. 12	\$12, 452 28						252 15 207 15		204 35 137 15		976 91 325 06	1,000 43 762 41	509 02 472 90	$1,820\ 26$ $252\ 15$	274 30	252 25 19 75
	Incidentals (including transporta- tion, medi- cal atten- tion, etc.)	11	\$1,796 46		2 00 14 00	40 34 05	1 15	1 10 65 15	4 06 21 28		22 37		10 05 50 63	11 45 38 62		1,485 19		12 50 *19 75
wed	Guide	10	\$75 00	1	29 40				5 00		8 35		10 00 7 00	15				
Amount of expense claims allowed	Room and board	6	\$2,574 77	1	20 00	313 00		10 00 00					664 102	559 144	223 66 252 15			
unt of expens	Reader	æ	\$1,823 78		5 00 19 80	3 00 83 25	00 09	87	85 00 85 00		10 80	8	105 151		190	22 00	44 35	
Amo	Text- books	7	\$666 36			13 50	17 00	6	20 09 4 22		25 20	4	26 12		22	329 57		
	Tuition, class activity, and registration	9	\$5, 515 91	252 15	33 188	487	192 426	145 145	150 00 150 00 374 00	769	160 00	247	160 00 2 00	143	220	230 00	229 95	239 75
dents	Total	5	55			22.23	- 67		1-01	ю —		-	4.0	400	0.01	10	-	Т
Number of students	Deaf	4	12										1			10		
Numb	Blind	89	43			8181	12	c	1-01	n		-	æ €1	4 6	0101	1	1	-
	Address of College or University	2		Music Chicago, Illinois	Chicago, Illinois		Elmhurst, Illinois	Bloomington, Illinois Chicago, Illinois	Chicago, Illinois	Jacksonville, Illinois	Naperville, Illinois	Chicago, Illinois	Carbondale, Illinois	Urbana, Illinois	Chicago, Illinois-Beloit, Wisconsin	Washington, D. C Kirksville, Missouri	St. Louis, Missouri	Stantord University, California
	Name of College On University	1		₩	Music	Jollege		od Music		anica	North Central College	Col		llege.	Wilson Junior CollegeBeloit College	Osteo	Chiro	Staniord University

* Administrative Expense,

TABLE 4-SCHOLARSHIP FUND FOR HIGHER EDUCATION OF BLIND, DEAF AND DUMB STUDENTS-1939-1940

	tals Total ing expendirta-tures edires.	12	6 75 \$17,915 91	445 349 445 350 446 45 350 447 1120 448 45 350 448 45 45 448 45 46 448 45 46 448 45 46 448 45 46 448 45 46 448 46	9 85 *19 85
	Incidentals (including transporta- tion, medi- eal atten- tion, etc.)	11	5 \$2,006	1	*19
owed	Guide	10	\$106 25	3 000	
se elaims all	Room and board	6	\$4,578 99	70 00 47 25 674 13 130 52 95 52 130 60 140 00 140 00 140 00 1428 89 89 08 89 08 89 08 428 89 428 89 428 89 428 89 409 75 409 75	3
A mount of expense claims allowed	Reader	× ×	\$3,774 26	73 50 189 00 106 82 126 82 27 325 27 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32 32	3 .
Amo	Text- books	7	\$1,157 91	8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	
	Tuition, class activity, and registration	9	\$6, 291 75	157 00 355 00 328 52 328 52 497 50 119 25 538 85 638 85 85 85 85 85 85 85 85 85 85 85 85 85 8	
Idents	Total	5	52		-
Number of students	Deaf	4	×		
Num	Blind	8	44	4 H 10	
	Address of College Or University			Chicago, Illinois— Chicago, Illinois— Chicago, Illinois— Charleston, Illinois— Charleston, Illinois— Benhurst, Illinois— Jacksonville, Illinois— Boomington, Illinois— Chicago, Illinois— Backsonville, Illinois— Racksonville, Illinois— Chicago, Illinois— Chicago, Illinois— Chicago, Illinois— Chicago, Illinois— Carbondale, Illinois— Chicago, Illinois— Chic	Camornia
	Name of College or University		ILLINOIS	American College of Physical Education. American Conservatory of Music Chiege Conservatory of Music Chiege Conservatory of Music Chiege Chiege State Teachers' College. Enhurst College. Frances Shimer Junior College. Illinois Wesleyan University. Kent College of Law. Lewis Institute. Lewis Institute. Lewis Institute. Lewis Institute. Loyola University of Chiege. North Central College. North Central College. Sherwood Music School. Southern Illinois Normal University of Illinois Normal University of Illinois College. Woodrow Wilson Junior College. Beloit College. Woodrow Wilson Junior College Gallaudet College. Gallaudet College. Gallaudet College. Gallaudet College. Practic.	

* Administrative Expense.



